

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/617,583	CODERRE, MARCEL
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Isaac N. Hamilton	3724

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1.  This communication is responsive to 08/05/05.
2.  The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-18.
3.  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a)  All
  - b)  Some\*    c)  None    of the:
    1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4.  A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5.  CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a)  including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1)  hereto or 2)  to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b)  including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6.  DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1.  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2.  Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3.  Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4.  Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5.  Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6.  Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7.  Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8.  Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9.  Other \_\_\_\_\_.

**EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

Claims 1-6, 9-14, 17 and 18 are directed to an allowable invention. Claims 7, 8, 15 and 16, directed to alternate embodiments of the invention, previously withdrawn from consideration as a result of a restriction requirement, are now subject to being rejoined. Claims 7, 8, 15 and 16 are hereby rejoined and fully examined for patentability.

Since all claims previously withdrawn from consideration have been rejoined, the restriction requirement made in the Office action mailed on 11/30/04 is hereby withdrawn.

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with applicant's representative, Mr. Ira S. Dorman, on October 14, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1, line 5, "plane of said body parallel" has been changed to --plane through said body being parallel--;

Claim 1, line 13, "therewbetween." Has been changed to --therewbetween, said resiliently deformable bow member always being at a fixed location with respect to said plane.--;

Claim 9, lines 1-9, "A tension board...additionally" has been changed to --The tension board of  
Claim 1 additionally--;

Claim 18, line 6, "plane of said body parallel" has been changed to --plane through said body  
being parallel--;

Claim 18, line 14, "therewbetween." Has been changed to --therewbetween, said resiliently  
deformable bow member always being at a fixed location with respect to said plane--.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The claims disclose a tension board comprising a body having a plane extending therethrough that is parallel to the surface of the cutting table and has a resiliently deformable bow that is attached at mutually spaced points along a peripheral edge of the body, wherein the bow deforms in a lateral direction from said body and is in a fixed location with respect to the plane. Toms (2,725,978) teaches a tension board comprising a body having a plane extending therethrough that is parallel to the surface of the cutting table and had a resiliently deformable bow member attached at mutually spaced points along a peripheral edge of the body, but does not teach the bow deforms in a lateral direction from said body in a fixed location with respect to the plane. Pruonto (3,335,390) teaches a tension board comprising a body that has a deformable bow that is attached at mutually spaced points along a peripheral edge of the body, but does not teach a plane extending through the body parallel to the surface of the table, and does not teach a bow that is deformable in a

fixed location with respect to the plane. It would not have been obvious to combine the references with other prior art teachings in order to meet the claim limitations.

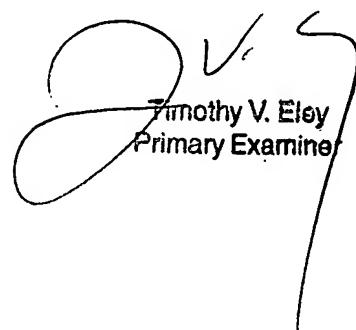
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Isaac Hamilton whose telephone number is 571-272-4509. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday between 8am and 5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Allan N. Shoap can be reached on 571-272-4514. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

IH  
October 14, 2005

  
Timothy V. Eley  
Primary Examiner